There are a number of interesting pieces of HIPAA information are included below.   Of special interest may be:
1) Security Rule and TCS Changes delayed
2) List of upcoming conferences

As always: Please be sure to note that in some cases the information presented may be the opinion of the original author. We need to be sure to view it in the context of our own organizations and environment. You may need additional information, support, legal opinions and/or decision documentation when interpreting the rules.

My thanks to all the folks who have shared information for this e-news.
Thanks!!!
Ken
(916-654-2466 if needed)

Several items that may be of interest:
    Security Rule Delayed for Fine-Tuning; More Rules on the Way
    [hipaalive] GENERAL: Informing Employees About HIPAA
    Draft Privacy Certification for BA's
    [hipaanotes] HIPAAnote - Vol. 2, No. 49 - 12/27/02
    [hipaalert] HIPAAlert-lite - Final Security Rule Delayed - 12/30/02 -
ATTACHMENT
    [hipaalive] ADMIN: Conference Announcement

********** * Security Rule Delayed for Fine-Tuning; More Rules on the Way ***************
FROM: [hipaalert] HIPAAlert-lite - Final Security Rule Delayed - 12/30/02
The Federal Register of Friday, December 27, made no mention of the final security rule nor the transactions modifications which were due to be published on that date. As of the 28th, the security rule had not been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), with OMB review generally taking a minimum of two weeks. Modern Physician reports that the final security rule could be delayed more than a couple of weeks in part because of the holidays and also because HHS has called in additional staff to fine-tune the language, according to Robert Tennant, Washington representative for the Englewood, Colo.-based Medical Group Management Association. "I would be absolutely shocked to see (the rule) in January," Tennant says.

According to Health Data Management, HHS officials gave conflicting statements over whether the security and transactions rules would be published as scheduled, and no explanation has been given as to the latest delay in getting out the rules. HHS officials told Health Data Management in a recent interview that HHS expects to publish the proposed claims attachment rule by mid-2003. The department expects in early spring 2003

to publish the final provider and proposed payer identifier rules. HHS has started work on a proposed HIPAA enforcement rule and could publish it during 2003, although no timetable is set.

Read more: http://www.hipaadvisory.com/news/index.cfm#1230mp

*********** [hipaalive] GENERAL: Informing Employees About HIPAA **************
** HIPAAlive! From Phoenix Health Systems/HIPAAdvisory.com **

I have been sending out e-mails every Monday and Thursday, with Q&A's, scenarios, etc. We purchased a commercial product, but quickly changed from
the canned emails to more of a "Dear Abby" type format.   I get more questions than I can answer doing this just twice a week. While this in no way meets the training requirements of the rule, we have experienced the beginning of a (dare I say it) "change of culture." In that, folks are talking about these emails, and thus talking about privacy and where the line needs to be drawn. And making more informed decisions. I have been doing this since July. For those that don't have e-mail, we print them and put in a notebook in their work areas.

As I am answering direct questions from staff these notes effect most employees in a very direct and meaningful manner.

- Mic Sager

-----Original Message-----
From: jhoben@frontiernet.net [mailto:jhoben@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2002 10:12 AM
To: HIPAAlive Discussion List
Cc: jhoben@frontiernet.net
Subject: [hipaalive] GENERAL: Informing Employees About HIPAA (fwd)

** HIPAAlive! From Phoenix Health Systems/HIPAAdvisory.com **

Hi David! Finally catching up on my HIPAAlive mail and realized I'd not replied to this request!

Melissa's approach and others who replied sound good. Keying on your request for "fun" leads me to about the only solution that meets that criteria from a company several of our clients have selected called "Care and Attention from Easyi Inc. http://www.easyi.com . Please let me know if you'd like to discuss any details regarding this 'fun' and effective approach to information that's otherwise mind numbing to the uninitiated!

John Hoben
ITX Corp.
Rochester, NY
jhoben@itx.net
585-899-4800

********************* Draft Privacy Certification for BA's
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From the Website:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/news/index.cfm#1226ncqa

December 26, 2002 **NCQA Releases Privacy Certification for BAs Draft Standards** The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) released on December 16 draft standards for its new Privacy Certification for Business Associates (PCBA) program. The program will certify that business associates have processes in place for handling protected health information (PHI) that are in compliance with HIPAA. Proposed program requirements relate to: privacy protections for oral, written, and electronic PHI; processes and practices for the storage, use, and disclosure of PHI; employee training in PHI protections; consumer access to PHI; and contracting between covered entities and their business associates.

********** [hipaanotes] HIPAAnote - Vol. 2, No. 49 - 12/27/02
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>>> <info@phoenixhealth.com> 12/27/02 10:53AM >>>
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H I P A A n o t e -- Volume 2, Number 49 -- December 27, 2002

>>From Phoenix Health Systems--HIPAA Knowledge--HIPAA Solutions<<
        =>Healthcare IT Consulting & Outsourcing<=
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Not ready for HIPAA?

Phoenix Health Systems' Audio Conference
"11TH HOUR HIPAA: Meeting the Deadlines When You Haven't Started!"
presents the Rapid HIPAA Implementation Process

THURS., JAN. 30, 2:00 PM EST

For more information or to sign up, visit our HIPAAstore:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/ezcart/

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This week's HIPAAnote...

*** Designated Record Sets:
   Limiting the scope of HIPAA privacy for patient access ***

HIPAA doesn't require healthcare organizations to provide full and total
access to all health information to the patient. That right of access is
substantially simplified by limiting the access to the designated record set.

The privacy rule defines the designated record set as records that contain
protected health information (PHI), and are used to make decisions about
the patient. That list includes:

* Medical records, whether paper or electronic
* Patient databases, electronic and paper
* Billing records, both paper and electronic (includes
  those maintained by business associates, such as
  collection agencies or billing companies)
* Other clinical data such as case management or
  utilization review documentation

Why is this important? In a healthcare facility, there are many documents
with patient information that don't meet this definition. One example: There
is often patient information in human resources records created when
employees are exposed to a patient's bodily fluids. The employment records
are not used to make decisions about the patient, so there's no need to
include them in the designated record set. Therefore, you don't need to
disclose those records.

What must you do as a healthcare organization? First, make a complete
inventory of all record sets, and determine exactly which are and are not
parts of the designated record set. Then define those records as the
designated record set in your organizational policies. Finally, make sure that
the policy is updated whenever your designated record set is redefined.

Tom Grove, Vice President
Phoenix Health Systems

That's today's HIPAAnote...now, pass it along!

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HIPAAnotes are published weekly as a learning tool to help you and your associates stay tuned-in to HIPAA and its implications. Forward it to anyone with a "need to know" through your own internal mailing list, intranet or newsletter -- whatever works for you...

Our HIPAAcratic oath: We'll use your ideas for HIPAAnotes -- send them!
Randa Upham, Editor
D'Arcy Gue, Executive Editor

***************** [hipaalive] ADMIN: Conference Announcement ******************

** HIPAAlive! From Phoenix Health Systems/HIPAAdvisory.com **

As a service to HIPAAlive members, Phoenix Health Systems, sponsor of HIPAAlive, announces upcoming HIPAA-related conferences. For those who want
to announce a conference, please email us at info@phoenixhealth.com. Please
note that individual announcements to the list are not permitted.

Additional services we offer to HIPAAlive members are the Members Only Doc
Site and HIPAAlive-Premium. The Doc Site is a central location available only to the members of HIPAAlive for exchanging and sharing HIPAA compliance
working documents with each other. For more information on the Members Only
Doc Site, go to:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/MembersOnlySignup/index.cfm.

HIPAAlive-Premium is an easy-to-navigate, individually formatted, "cleaned-up" digest of HIPAAlive, delivered at least twice daily. Original content and meaning are retained, and the format enables us to provide periodic, concise summaries of discussions on key topics. New HIPAAlive-Premium members now receive a FREE subscription to the Members
Only Doc Site. For more information on HIPAAlive-Premium, go to:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/live/prem.htm.

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, ETC.

2003

JANUARY:

Future Care 2003 Healthcare Web Summit
Managed Care On-Line (MCOL)
January 8 - January 24, 2003
http://www.healthwebsummit.com/futurecare.htm

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 7, 2003
New York, NY
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 8, 2003
Boston, MA
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

Mastering HIPAA EDI Implementation Guides
EDI Partners
January 9 & 10, 2003
Baltimore, MD
http://www.edipartners.com/register.html

Security Healthcare Certification and Accreditation Workgroup
URAC (AKA American Accreditation HealthCare Commission) and National
Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
January 10, 2003
NIST, Gaithersburg, MD
http://webapps.urac.org/committeesite/security/attachb.asp

HIPAA Road Map III: How Do I Get There From Here?
(Conference designed exclusively for behavioral health, public health,
and
human services professionals)
CMHC Systems, Inc.

January 13 - 15, 2003
Hilton Easton Town Center, Columbus, OH
http://www.hipaaroadmap.com

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 14, 2003
San Francisco, CA
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 15, 2003
Los Angeles, CA
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

Mid-Atlantic HIPAA Summit
Pinder & Associates and Precyse Solutions
January 16 - 17, 2003
Bally's Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, NJ
http://www.pinderandassociates.com/summit.htm

Mastering HIPAA EDI Implementation Guides
EDI Partners
January 16 & 17, 2003
Seattle, WA
http://www.edipartners.com/register.html

"Beyond HIPAA 101: HIPAA Workforce Training Strategies" WEDI SNIP
Audiocast
Series
Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange Strategic National
Implementation
Process (WEDI SNIP)
January 21, 2003, 2:00 EST - 3:30 PM, EST
http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/BeyondHIPAA101WEDIAudiocast.pd
f

Getting Practical with Privacy and Security Seminar
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)/
Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
January 21 - 23, 2003
Denver, CO
http://www.ahima.org/privacy/

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 23, 2003
Atlanta, GA
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

HIPAA Readiness Workshop for Rural Physicians and Health Care Providers
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
January 23, 2003
Holiday Inn Express, North Platte, NE
http://www.wedi.org/snip/public/articles/ACF1530.doc

Legal Issues Affecting Academic Medical Centers and Other Teaching
Institutions
American Health Lawyers Association
January 23 - 24, 2003
Ritz-Carlton, Washington, DC
https://www.healthlawyers.org/programs/prog_03amc.cfm

January 23 - 24, 2003
Disease Management Summit for Employers, Providers and Health Plans
(highlighted case studies include complying with HIPAA regulations)
The Center for Business Intelligence
Palm Beach Gardens Marriott, Palm Beach, FL
http://www.cbinet.com/events/FB313/index.html

Mastering HIPAA EDI Implementation Guides
EDI Partners
January 23 & 24, 2003
Atlanta, GA
http://www.edipartners.com/register.html

NCVHS Workgroup on National Health Information Infrastructure
National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS)

January 27 - 28, 2003
Washington, DC
http://ncvhs.hhs.gov/

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 29, 2003
Dallas, TX
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

NCVHS Subcommittee on Standards and Security
National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS)
January 29 - 30, 2003
Washington, DC
http://ncvhs.hhs.gov/

"11th Hour HIPAA: Meeting the Deadlines When You Haven't Started!" Audio
Conference
Phoenix Health Systems
January 30, 2003, 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/ezcart/

Educational HIPAA Luncheon Seminar (earn 4 CE credits)
Ames Color-File
January 30, 2003
Chicago, IL
Email contact information to info@amespage.com or call 1-800-343-2040,
ext.
1058

FEBRUARY:

ASC X12 Trimester Meeting
February 2 - 7, 2003
Adams Mark, Denver, CO
http://www.x12.org/x12org/meetings/x12trimt/index.cfm

Getting Practical with Privacy and Security Seminar
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)/
Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS)

February 3 - 5, 2003
Nashville, TN
http://www.ahima.org/privacy/

Sixth Annual National Congress on Health Care Compliance
February 5 - 7, 2003
Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, DC
http://www.compliancecongress.com/

February 6 & 7, 2003
Mastering HIPAA EDI Implementation Guides
Denver, CO
http://www.edipartners.com/register.html

2003 National Medicaid HIPAA & MMIS Summit
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Louisiana Department
of Health and Hospitals
February 9 - 13, 2003
Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Orleans, LA
http://conferences.uno.edu/hipaaRegis.htm

Half-day "How To" Workshop
(for benefit plan administrators and others with a need to know the technical aspects of administration and compliance for HIPAA, etc.)
New England Employee Benefits Council
February 13, 2003
John Hancock Conference Center, Boston, MA
http://www.neebc.org/programs/index.html

Mastering HIPAA EDI Implementation Guides
EDI Partners
February 13 & 14, 2003
Minneapolis, MN
http://www.edipartners.com/register.html

Getting Practical with Privacy and Security Seminar
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)/
Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
February 18 - 20, 2003
Orlando, FL
http://www.ahima.org/privacy/

Long Term Care and the Law Program
American Health Lawyers Association
February 19 - 21, 2003
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort, Phoenix, AZ
https://www.healthlawyers.org/programs/prog_03ltc.cfm

Mastering HIPAA EDI Implementation Guides
EDI Partners
February 20 & 21, 2003
Houston, TX
http://www.edipartners.com/register.html

Getting Practical with Privacy and Security Seminar
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)/
Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
February 24 - 26, 2003
Las Vegas, NV
http://www.ahima.org/privacy/

Workers' Comp Legislative/Regulatory Seminar (key topics include HIPAA
privacy and security regulations)
Self-Insurance Institute of America, Inc.
February 26 - 27, 2003
Marriott Metro Center, Washington, DC
http://www.siia.org/public/articles/index.cfm?Cat=153

NCVHS Full Committee Meeting
National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS)
February 26 - 27, 2003
Washington, DC
http://ncvhs.hhs.gov/

17th Annual Legislative/Regulatory Conference (key topics include HIPAA
privacy and security regulations)
Self-Insurance Institute of America, Inc.
February 26 - 28, 2003
Marriott Metro Center, Washington, DC
http://www.siia.org/public/articles/index.cfm?Cat=152

For more conferences in the months ahead, view the full calendar online at:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/news/conference/